

Did you know that *talented, qualified, engaged, and diverse workforce is at the heart of America's healthcare system? Hospitals and health systems now face mounting and critical staffing shortages that could jeopardize access to care in the communities they serve. AHA survey data show that between 2019 and 2020, job vacancies for various types of nursing personnel increased by up to 30%, and for respiratory therapists by 31%. These shortages are expected to persist, with an analysis of EMSI data showing there will be a shortage of up to 3.2 million healthcare workers by 2026.*

1. We are starting off today's information with a site of **FREE information/resources and curriculum on recognizing and respecting diversity, cultural and social differences**, etc. <https://www.learningforjustice.org> is an amazing site full of classroom resources K-12 (but the 9-12 appropriate for adults too), professional development opportunities and magazines/publications on the topic. I highly recommend spending a little time on this site to identify how it would fit into your curriculum.
2. And while we are talking about **diversity**.....This **webinar from NLN and Elsevier** is for you! Hear from faculty and students as they share insights on what implementing diversity and inclusion policies and practices looks like, ideas for starting the conversation, and how representation in content plays a key role in learning.
 - a. Share different perspectives, including those from faculty and students, on the importance of inclusion and diversity as it relates to the nursing and health care learning journey.
 - b. Facilitate an open discussion on experiences, challenges, involvement, ideas, and the importance of topics at hand.
 - c. Highlight different resources or policies Elsevier has in place to further support student and faculty needs in the classroom as it relates to inclusion and diversity.

[To register for this free webinar](#) hosted on March 29, 2022 at 2pm CST.
3. **Take charge of your video meetings with these keyboard shortcuts. FREE DOWNLOAD! Zoom** is an easy-to-use tool for video conferencing. It makes virtual meetings and group messaging simple and enjoyable. If you have installed this popular online collaboration tool on your Windows or macOS desktop, this cheat sheet will come in handy. It contains various shortcuts to help you control your Zoom chats and meetings using only the keyboard. **See attached document.**
4. Wednesday Webinar coming soon: Introduction to Health Science and Careers –Learn how to bring health science professions to life in your school! Wednesday, March 9, 2022 3pm-4pm CST [Register here.](#)
5. I love this story-- Shakopee High School **students create IV 'lily pads' for pediatric patients.** Students at a Minnesota high school are partnering with a medical product manufacturer to create "lily pads" for intravenous stands for pediatric patients. The students, enrolled in technology and engineering classes, worked with the art club to brainstorm, design and build prototypes. **Full Story:** [SWNews4U \(Wis.\)](#) (2/26)
6. Free Cheat Sheet: **"100 Conversation Starters For Different Groups"** It can be difficult to think of new things to ask people, so we've rounded up 100 conversation starters for your colleagues, family, friends, and more. Some people are better conversationalists than others. They always seem to have interesting questions to ask! Whether it's your colleagues, family, friends, first date, or just a stranger, this one-page PDF contains everything you need to get exciting and interesting discussions started. Great for communication module and practicing the sender/receiver model. **See attachment**
7. Who are novice nurse educators? They are defined as **educators new to nursing education with less than three years of nurse educator practice**, but the NLN recognizes them beyond their years of experience. Novice nurse educators are the newest generation of nursing education

leaders who are positioning nurse students to successfully transition into the nursing workforce. They are vital in advancing nursing education and the nursing profession, and for this reason, the NLN Certification department has developed **the Academic Novice Nurse Educator Certification (CNE®n).**

This new certification program is designed to help novice nurses demonstrate their expertise and commitment to building a stronger nursing workforce. As a leader in your program, we hope you join us in being one of the first to empower new nurse educators to pursue the CNE®n Certification.

It's the next step in advancing nurse educators from novice-to-expert, and a mark of distinction and excellence. [Learn more about CNE®n](#)

8. See what experts have to say about post-COVID learning in this e-School News article: **11 educator perspectives on post-COVID learning** [11 educator perspectives on post-COVID learning \(eschoolnews.com\)](#)
9. Finding and Engaging Employer Partners: One of the biggest challenges in CTE is finding partners to **support your work-based learning efforts and drive your advisory board**. Most people feel uncomfortable making cold calls and educators are no exception, so we put off that outreach work as long as we can. However, there are partnership development strategies that don't involve those dreaded cold calls, and there is an established process for turning those prospects into committed partners and advocates. Join Brett Pawlowski of NC3T, lead author of *The Employer Engagement Toolkit*, to find out how you can build the partnerships you've always wanted. [Register for this FREE course today!](#)
10. Did you Know that OkACTE is now accepting applications for a **Membership Dues Installment Plan**: OkACTE is excited to offer members the opportunity to join or renew their membership with the OkACTE Membership Dues Installation Plan! This opportunity is available to OkACTE members whose annual dues total \$100 or more.

How does the OkACTE Membership Installment Plan work?

- This plan only covers membership dues. Optional items such as PAC cannot be included in payment installments.
- Primary and secondary dues can be included in payment installment.
- Members select between two installment payment options
 - 4-installment plan (June - September)
 - 2-installment plan (September & October).
- Members select the date of ACH: 5th or 20th monthly

How to Apply:

- Complete the **OkACTE Membership Installment Plan form**.
- Submit the form by **March 31** for the 4-installment plan.
- Submit the form by **August 6** for the 2-installment plan.
- Participating members must complete enrollment for by appropriate deadline to initiate initial payment.
 - 4-installment payments- May 31
 - 2-installment payments - August 5

For additional information about the OkACTE Membership Dues Installment Plan, please visit the **OkACTE website - Membership- OkACTE Membership Dues Installment Plan** or select the link below or you can contact Carmen Jones, cjones@okacte.org
[Download the installment plan form](#)
[Get Details](#)

11. Just as a reminder, **HOSA SLC testing** begins this week so make sure you remind your students with "testing" events.

12. In addition, we have opened [HCC Bootcamp registration](#) and trust me....you WANT to be there! Do you ever feel like you can't travel out of state for a conference, or that you need to be able to put some umph back into the classroom? Sign up today for this HUGE event! It's not to be missed!!!
13. Resource Provider of the Week: [MedCA \(Medical Career Assessments\)](#) is a testing resource that has exams for Medical Assistant, Medical Billing and Coding, medical laboratory Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy Technician, EKG Technician, Patient Care Technician and Veterinary Assistant. For more information, go to <http://www.medcainc.com> or contact Sharon Lemley, Account Rep at 516-868-6800 or sharon@medca.us
14. You will be sent a standards rating tool designed to get feedback on the [National Health Science Standards](#) very soon. We need representation from ALL AREAS of health care professionals—what are the ENTRY-level competencies needed for students arriving to post-secondary education? This is your chance to [validate and improve the current standards](#). Watch your inbox!